



transforming

CALTRANS

# A New Mission

## Requires New Measures Of Success

It's a new day at Caltrans, with new priorities, new goals, and new commitments. To refer to Caltrans merely as a highway department would be to miss the point of a revolutionary shift in focus and values.

Safety, of course, remains Caltrans' top priority. But now it is linked with health—a connection that is rare among transportation departments.

Making it easier to get around without a motorized vehicle encourages healthy lifestyles. So Caltrans has placed new priority on active transportation and on safe routes for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Reducing transportation-related pollution also fosters healthier lives, while helping California maintain its leadership role in the battle against global warming. So Caltrans has increased its focus on transit systems and sustainable links between all modes of transportation.

At the center of this evolution is the *Caltrans 2015-2020 Strategic Management Plan*, which ensures that change is ordered, purposeful and quantifiable by laying out specific goals and performance measures.

Simply expressing those goals, of course, is not enough. Progress toward them must be measured in order for Caltrans to see where it is succeeding, and where it needs to adopt new methods or new strategies.

Caltrans has a long history of measuring performance and can quickly tell you how much of its fleet runs on alternative fuels, or the overall condition of pavement or bridges. It has years of data on how many people ride trains instead of single-occupancy vehicles. The list is long: Caltrans tabulates the number of work-related injuries, the variances in commute time on specific routes, the percentage of projects completed on schedule and much more.

As Caltrans embraces a more complete vision of the transportation system, it will require even more data, covering specific indicators of sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation that will enhance California's economy and livability.

For some of these new targets there is very little data with which Caltrans can determine its performance. As that data is collected, it will be added to the quarterly *Mile Marker*. The department has a renewed commitment to transparency, so it will share its new data as it becomes available. Caltrans' evolution will take place in full public view.

Here is a short description of the major goals in the ***Caltrans Strategic Management Plan 2015-2020***.

**Safety and Health:** “Provide a safe transportation system for workers and users, and promote health through active transportation and reduced pollution in communities.”

**Stewardship and Efficiency:** “Money counts. Responsibly manage California's transportation related assets.”

**Sustainability, Livability and Economy:** “Make long-lasting, smart mobility decisions that improve the environment, support a vibrant economy, and build communities, not sprawl.”

**System Performance:** “Utilize leadership, collaboration and strategic partnerships to develop an integrated transportation system that provides reliable and accessible mobility for travelers.”

**Organizational Excellence:** “Be a national leader in delivering quality service through excellent employee performance, public communication, and accountability.”